

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California

***United States Attorney
Karen P. Hewitt***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - May 9, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Edgardo Vilas, a former teacher at Rancho Del Campo, Juvenile Court and Community School, was sentenced today in federal court in San Diego based upon his conviction for one count of possession of child pornography, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252(a)(4)(B). United States District Court Judge Jeffrey T. Miller accepted Vilas' plea and sentenced him to serve 36 months in custody and five years of supervised release following his release from prison and required Vilas to register as a sex offender. Vilas pled guilty on February 12, 2008.

According to the court records, Vilas admitted that on or about January 11, 2008, he possessed a computer containing over 600 images of minors, some as young as six years old, engaging in sexually explicit conduct with adults and each other.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local

resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov .

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 08cr0346-JM

EDGARDO VILAS

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252(a)(4)(B) (Possession of Child Pornography)

AGENCY

Immigration and Customs Enforcement